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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Group Art Unit 2834

In re
Patent Application of
Huck et al.
Serial No. 10/551,120
Filed: September 23, 2005
Confirmation No. 4091

"GEARING DRIVE UNIT COMPRISING AN
ELECTRONICS INTERFACE"

I, Sharon A. Johnson, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service addressed to Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on the date of my signature.

Sharon A. Johnson

Signature

12/12/06 08/16/07

Date of Signature

SECOND REQUEST FOR REFUND

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is being filed along with a Preliminary Amendment that removes the multiple dependent claim from the application. Following this amendment, the application has three independent claims and 18 total claims, with no multiple dependent claims.

Applicant requests a refund of \$3,260 for the multiple dependency claim fees that were charged to our Deposit Account No. 13-3080 on October 16, 2006.

\$2,900 US00 Claims - extra total (over 20)

\$ 360 US00 Claims - multiple dependent

\$3,260 Total

Please credit Deposit Account No. 13-3080 with \$3,260.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Price
Reg. No. 31,557

Attorney File No. 081276-1065-00

Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 3300
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108
(414) 271-6560

Transmittal Letter
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Inventor: Huck et al.
 Title: GEARING DRIVE UNIT COMPRISING
AN ELECTRONICS INTERFACE

Serial/Patent No. 10/551,120

Due Date: _____ Mail Date: 12/12/06

File No.: 08/276-7065-00 Attorney: DRP

Inventor: Huck et al.
 Title: GEARING DRIVE UNIT COMPRISING
AN ELECTRONICS INTERFACE

Serial/Patent No. 10/551,120

Due Date: _____ Mail Date: 12/12/06

File No.: 08/276-7065-00 Attorney: DRP

Vol. 1
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Group Art Unit 2834

In re

Patent Application of

Huck et al.

Serial No. 10/551,120

Filed: September 23, 2005

Confirmation No. 4091

"GEARING DRIVE UNIT COMPRISING AN
ELECTRONICS INTERFACE"

I, Sharon A. Johnson, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail addressed to Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on the date of my signature.

Sharon A. Johnson

Signature

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SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

Please enter the following Amendment:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

Transmittal Letter
 PATENT APPLICATION
 Specification (Incl. Claims if any) _____ Pgs.
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Second Preliminary Amendment

Inventor: HUCK et al.
 Title: GEARING DRIVE UNIT COMPRISING AN ELECTRONICS INTERFACE

Serial/Patent No. 10/551, 120

Due Date: _____ Mail Date: 12/12/06

File No.: 081276-1065-00 Attorney: DRP

Transmittal Letter
 PATENT APPLICATION a "GEARING DRIVE UNIT COMPRISING AN ELECTRONICS INTERFACE"
 Specification (Incl. Claims if any) 11 Pgs.
 Abstract of Disclosure
 Information Disclosure Statement
 Patent Copies DEC 21 2006
 Declaration & Power of Attorney
 Declaration Claiming Small Entity Status
 Assignment THE WOODWARD CO. INC., W.I.
 Drawings _____ Sheets
 Response to Missing Parts Notice
 Response to Office Action/Amendment
 Request for Ext. of Time for filing _____
 Issue Fee Transmittal
 Formal Drawings _____ Sheets DEC 1-4 2006
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 Fee Amount \$ _____ Check No. _____

Other (Specify) _____

Second Preliminary Amendment

Inventor: HUCK et al.
 Title: GEARING DRIVE UNIT COMPRISING AN ELECTRONICS INTERFACE

Serial/Patent No. 10/551, 120

Due Date: _____ Mail Date: 12/12/06

File No.: 081276-1065-00 Attorney: DRP

Vol. 1

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Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the listing of claims as follows:

1. (Original) Gear drive unit (10) with an electric drive motor (12) featuring an armature shaft (16) and at least one housing part (14, 18) accommodating the armature shaft (16) and an electronic interface (36) to accommodate various plug-in modules (34, 82, 94, 110), which can be inserted into the electronic interface (36) in the insertion direction (55), characterized in that the electronic interface (36) features walls (38) that are spaced apart from each other, which walls form an opening (42) perpendicular to the armature shaft (16) and an opening (44) axial to the armature shaft, wherein at least one first sealing surface (50) and guides (64) are arranged on the walls (38) along the insertion direction (55) to seal various plug-in modules (34, 82, 94, 110) vis-à-vis the at least one housing part (14, 18).
2. (Original) Gear drive unit (10) according to Claim 1, characterized in that the electronic interface (36) features at least a second sealing surface (48) to seal various plug-in modules (34, 82, 94, 110), wherein the at least two sealing surfaces (48, 50) are arranged offset at least partially with respect to the insertion direction (55).
3. (Previously Presented) Gear drive unit (10) according to Claim 1, characterized in that at least the first sealing surface (50) seals the plug-in modules (34, 82, 94, 110) at least to some extent radially to the insertion direction (55).
4. (Previously Presented) Gear drive unit (10) according to Claim 1, characterized in that at least one housing part (18) features a recess (46) in the area of the electronic interface (36), into which a printed circuit board (32) of the plug-in module (34, 82, 94, 110) can be inserted tangentially or radially to the armature shaft (16).

5. (Previously Presented) Gear drive unit (10) according to Claim 1, characterized in that the second sealing surface (48) is arranged essentially along the edge of the recess (46).
6. (Previously Presented) Gear drive unit (10) according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first sealing surface (50) is arranged essentially along the edge of the openings (42, 44).
7. (Previously Presented) Gear drive unit (10) according to Claim 1, characterized in that the guides (64) are arranged for pressing one of the seals (88, 60) that is arranged on the plug-in module (34, 94, 110) against the sealing surfaces (50) and/or for mechanically holding on the edge of the axial opening (44).
8. (Previously Presented) Gear drive unit (10) according to Claim 1, characterized in that the walls (38) of the electronic interface (36) is arranged conically in the insertion direction (55).
9. (Previously Presented) Gear drive unit (10) according to Claim 1, characterized in that locking means (68, 70) are arranged on the electronic interface (36) to lock with counter locking means (74, 72) on the plug-in module (34, 82, 94, 110).
10. (Previously Presented) Gear drive unit (10) according to Claim 1, characterized in that the gear drive unit (10) features a brush holder (62), on which an optional, particularly two-pin, plug (80) is arranged for electric contacting, which projects from the at least one housing part (14, 18) in the area of the electronic interface (36), which housing part is designed to be sealed in the area of the electronic interface (36).
11. (Previously Presented) Gear drive unit (10) according to Claim 1, characterized in that at the first sealing surface (50, 58) is arranged in such a way that it does not collide with the optional plug (80) that is formed on the brush holder and projects from the housing part (14, 18).

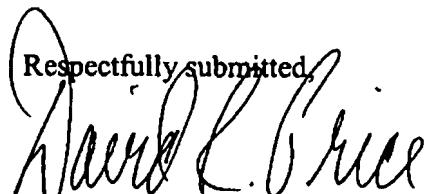
12. (Currently Amended) Plug-in module (34, 82, 94, 110) for use with a gear drive unit (10) with an electric drive motor (12) featuring an armature shaft (16) and at least one housing part (14, 18) accommodating the armature shaft (16) and an electronic interface (36) to accommodate the plug-in module (34, 82, 94, 110), which can be inserted into the electronic interface (36) in an insertion direction (55), the electronic interface (36) including walls (38) that are spaced apart from each other, which walls form an opening (42) perpendicular to the armature shaft (16) and an opening (44) axial to the armature shaft, wherein at least one first sealing surface (50) and guides (64) are arranged on the walls (38) along the insertion direction (55) to seal the plug-in module (34, 82, 94, 110) with respect to the at least one housing part (14, 18) according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the plug-in module (34, 82, 94, 110) features a seal (88, 60), made of a thermoplastic elastomer in particular, which can cooperate with the first, second or additional sealing surfaces (48, 50) sealing surface (50) in such a way that the at least one housing part (14, 18) is sealed in a watertight manner.
13. (Original) Plug-in module (34, 110) according to Claim 12, characterized by an electronic plug (84), whose plugging direction runs essentially radial to the armature shaft (16).
14. (Previously Presented) Plug-in module (34, 82, 94) according to Claim 12, characterized by an electronic plug (84), whose plugging direction runs essentially axial to the armature shaft (16).
15. (Previously Presented) Plug-in module (34, 110) according to Claim 12, characterized by a jacket-like housing (111), which can cooperate with the one seal (88) with the second sealing surface (48) of the gear drive unit (10) and can be sealed with another seal (114) vis-à-vis a cover (116) of the plug-in module (34, 110) that features a plug (84).

16. (Previously Presented) Plug-in module (34, 82, 94, 110) according to Claim 12, characterized by a printed circuit board (32), on whose side facing the armature shaft (16) at least parts of a speed detection device (30); in particular a Hall sensor system (30), are arranged.
17. (Previously Presented) Plug-in module (34, 82, 94, 110) according to Claim 12, characterized by two outside walls (96, 97) arranged at an angle to one another, which close the openings (42, 44) of the electronic interface (36) and are connected to one another by means of a frame element (98) in such a way that both the printed circuit board (32) and the connections (100) of the electronic plug (84) are freely accessible for their assembly.
18. (Previously Presented) System to electrically adjust parts in a motor vehicle that are arranged to be moveable, in particular window panes, in which a gear drive unit (10) with an electric drive motor (12) featuring an armature shaft (16) and at least one housing part (14, 18) accommodating the armature shaft (16) and an electronic interface (36) to accommodate various plug-in modules (34, 82, 94, 110), which can be inserted into the electronic interface (36) in the insertion direction (55), characterized in that the electronic interface (36) features walls (38) that are spaced apart from each other, which walls form an opening (42) perpendicular to the armature shaft (16) and an opening (44) axial to the armature shaft, wherein at least one first sealing surface (50) and guides (64) are arranged on the walls (38) along the insertion direction (55) to seal various plug-in modules (34, 82, 94, 110) vis-à-vis the at least one housing part (14, 18) and is alternatively combined with a plug-in module (34, 82, 94, 110) for use with a gear drive unit (10) according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the plug-in module (34, 82, 94, 110) features a seal (88, 60), made of a thermoplastic elastomer in particular, which can cooperate with the first, second or additional sealing surfaces (48, 50) in such a way that at least one housing part (14, 18) is sealed in a watertight manner.

Remarks

This preliminary amendment is made to change Claim 12 from a multiple dependent claim to an independent claim. We will request a refund of the fees that resulted from the multiple dependent claim.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this second preliminary amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Price
Reg. No. 31,557

Docket No. 081276-1065-00

Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
100 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108
(414) 271-6560